

Sincock, Jennifer

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Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:24 AM
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Cc: Richardson, William; McDonnell, Lee
Subject: Final 2015 Assessment Methods

The 2015 Assessment Methods will be posted as final to the DEP website on Friday Feb. 11. The methods will be officially final with the publication of the notice in the PA Bulletin on Saturday Feb. 12. These methods are the basis of the assessments reported in the 2016 Integrated Report to be released later this month or early March for public comment. The only new protocol for the 2015 Assessment Methods is the Cause and Effect survey protocol. Revised protocols include:

- Bacteriological Sampling Protocol
- Lake Assessment Protocol
- Aquatic Macrophyte Cover
- Plankton Sampling
- Chlorophyll-a Sampling

The cause definitions were updated to include references to lakes which had been missing as well as a definition of DO/BOD. The Nutrient Impact Assessment Protocol will not be published as final as we have decided to further refine the protocol this coming field season. All other 2013 Assessment Methods that were not revised will be carried over for the 2015 Assessment Methods.

The link to the current page will be updated for the final and will have active links to all methods. Mark Brickner or I will send out an updated link once the page is live.

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